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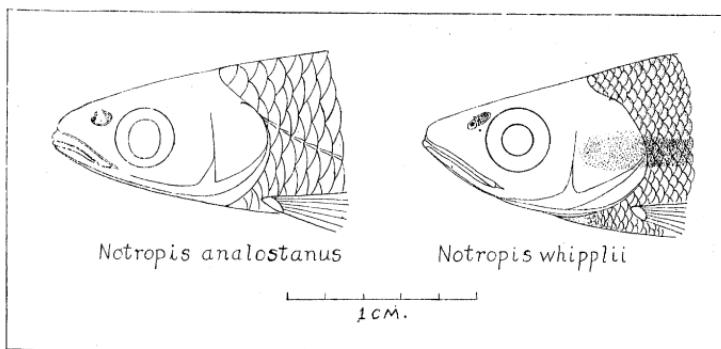
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A RECORD OF *Notropis whipplii* FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Three specimens of *Notropis whipplii* were collected by the writer and Mr. C. M. Breder, Jr., of the New York Aquarium, in Oxon Run, a small stream flowing into the Potomac near the south-eastern corner of the District of Columbia. One specimen was taken January 1, 1920, and two more were taken October 4, 1920. If this species has been taken in the District, or indeed on the Atlantic slope, previously, the record is not known to the writer.

The range of *Notropis whipplii*, as stated by Jordan and Evermann in Bulletin 47, page 278, is:—"Central New York, Cayuga Lake to Minnesota, northern Alabama and Arkansas, in clear streams; very abundant in the Ohio valley." *N. analostanus*, on page 279, is described as follows:—"The eastern representative of *N. whipplii*. Entirely similar to *whipplii* except that the body is less elongate and the scales larger, 34 or 35 in the lateral line instead of 38 to 40. Probably to be regarded as a different species, but possibly intergrading with *whipplii* on the westward and perhaps with *niveus* southward."

It is evident, therefore, that *N. whipplii* might be confused with *N. analostanus*, but no particular difficulty was experienced in separating the three specimens of the former from a large number of the latter, since the much larger scales and smaller mouth of *N. analostanus* distinguish it at once. In addition, preserved specimens of *N. whipplii* have a much darker stripe along the side than that of *N. analostanus*. When specimens of each, of the same length, are placed side by side, they appear to be quite distinct. The accompanying cut which was drawn from specimens each of which was 55.0 mm. long, illustrates some of the most striking differences between the two species.



Our specimens of *N. analostanus* have 37 scales and those of *N. whippii* have 42 scales along the lateral line. The scales of the former are much deeper than long, while the scales of the latter have a rounded appearance. The specimens collected in Oxon Run agree closely with the type specimen of *N. whippii*, (U. S. N. M., No. 137), except that the type has 40 instead of 42 scales.

Since the western range of *N. whippii* coincides with the range of such minnows as *N. cornutus* and *Semotilus bullaris* which are found also on the Atlantic slope, there is no reason to suppose that *whippii* is an introduced species, or one that has migrated eastward within recent times. Similarly, *analostanus* might extend farther west than is known at present, not because of intergrading, but because its distribution in the east is similar to that of other minnows which are found both in the east and west. Although *whippii* apparently is not abundant in Oxon Run, it might be found in many tributaries of the Potomac and no doubt it has been taken by other collectors who have not separated it from *analostanus*.

Notropis analostanus also differs from *N. niveus* with which it is supposed to intergrade to the south. Specimens of *niveus* were compared carefully with specimens of *analostanus* and the type specimen of

whippuli. A brief summary of the more striking characters which follows shows that it is needless to confuse these three species, although superficially they resemble each other in form.

Notropis.

1. Maxillary extending to below middle of nostril. Nostril wholly anterior to the orbit. Lower jaw included. Scales 40-42, rounded in appearance. *niveus*.
2. Maxillary extending nearly to anterior margin of orbit. Lower jaw included. Scales 34-37, much deeper than long. Nostril wholly anterior to the orbit. *analostanus*.
3. Maxillary extending beyond anterior margin of orbit, in some specimens to anterior margin of pupil. Mouth rather oblique, more so than in preceding species. Lower jaw sub-equal, its tip when the mouth is closed even with, or projecting a trifle beyond snout. Scales 40-42, rounded in appearance. Axis of nostril directed obliquely upward. Posterior margin of nostril lies above anterior portion of orbit. *whippuli*.

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A BASKING SHARK (*Cetorhinus maximus*)
OFF NEW JERSEY

On April 26, 1921, an example of this shark was captured by some mackerel-fishermen 65 miles off Atlantic City. It was captured in a purse-net, which it largely destroyed in its struggles. In length it measured about 17 feet. Among some portions of it which we have preserved are a number of the very small teeth, which measure 4 mm. in length.

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